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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

SPOT COMMENTARY

DIRECTORATE OF INTELLIGENCE

14 August 1990
0600 EDT

Iraq-Kuwait: Situation Report

British Intercept Tanker

According to press, the British Navy intercepted a Cyprus-registered oil tanker off the coast of the UAE today after concluding that the ship may have been carrying Iraqi petroleum products. The interdiction was the first by the British Navy since its initial three vessels arrived in the Gulf. The ship was stopped after undergoing repairs in the port of Jebel Ali and was found to be empty. We have no information to confirm these reports. [REDACTED]

Military Situation

[REDACTED]

Comment: The Iraqis transferred upwards of 40 transport helicopters (MI-8 Hips and UH-1 Hueys) to southeastern Iraq prior to the invasion of Kuwait, and we would expect a similar concentration to take place if they envisioned air assault operations into Saudi Arabia. The Iraqi forces north of the Saudi border were in an area imaged for the first time since the invasion, and they most likely are providing border security. [REDACTED]

Iraqi Military Intelligence Views the US Buildup

[REDACTED]

Prepared by: [REDACTED]

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APPROVED FOR RELEASE
DATE: MAY 2000

Possible Iraqi Psychological Warfare

The text of an anonymous document printed in English and Arabic and circulating in Riyadh claims to give advice on how to deal with a chemical weapons (CW) attack.

[REDACTED] the advisory is likely an Iraqi-instigated covert action project intended to create panic. The English version is slightly different from the Arabic and states that if outside in the event of an attack, "You will die. Do nothing." The document wishes its readers "Good Luck." [REDACTED]

Comment: The wording of the English version suggests it is meant to panic expatriates. We agree with the [REDACTED] assessment that psychological warfare campaigns will likely increase. [REDACTED]